

Serial No. 10/054,447

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed October 18, 2005, claims 1-10, 52-61, 103-114, 162-173 and 233-272 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ragheb, et al. (USPN 5,824,049). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's position that Ragheb, et al. anticipates claims 1-10, 52-61, 103-114, 162-173 and 233-272. However, in an effort to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 52, 103, 162, and 233-236 to recite chemical bonding of a guanidino moiety to a catechol moiety. Claims 244-245, 250-254, 262-263, and 268-272 have been canceled accordingly. Applicants reserve the right to file future continuation applications directed toward the subject matter of the claims prior to the present amendments.

The Office Action states that "the Examiner's search revealed that the claimed guanidino moiety species within the claims' limitations could not be found". Therefore, presently amended independent claims 1, 52, 103, 162, and 233 - 236, all of which recite guanidino moieties, are not anticipated by Ragheb, et al. All of the dependent claims are not anticipated by Ragheb, et al. for the same reason.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection based on Ragheb, et. al. in light of the amendments to independent claims 1, 52, 103, 162, and 233-236. As a result, pending claims 1-10, 52-61, 103-114, 162-173, 233-243, 246-249, 255-261, and 264-267 are in condition for allowance.

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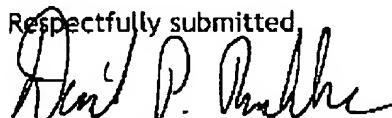
Applicants have added the following new dependent claims: claims 273-281, which depend from independent claim 233; claims 282-290, which depend from independent claim 234; claim 291, which depends from independent claim 235; and claim 292 which depends from independent claim 236. The new dependent claims find support, for example, from the claims as originally filed, in particular, claims 2-10, claims 53-61, claim 111, and claim 170, respectively. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the attorney of record at the telephone number listed below if there are any further questions.

Applicants believe no new fee is required. If this is in error please charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

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Respectfully submitted,



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